FLORENCE JONAS
285 RIVERSIDE DRIVE
NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10025

February 23, 1972

Mr. Charles Kuralt
CBS News
524 West 57 Street
New York, N.Y. 10019

Dear Mr. Kuralt:

Even though I have already written to Mr. Salant about your splendid program "Misunderstanding China," I feel that I must thank you personally (and all of the others who worked on it). As I have told Mr. Salant, so far as I am concerned, this has been the most important and meaningful of all of the programs I have seen thus far on China. Somehow, since I have never shared such views on the Chinese, I was quite unaware of the attitudes which have been built up through the movies, comics, etc. all these many years. I myself visited China in 1935 simply out of an interest in and a deep respect for her (his-its-Ms?) ancient culture. Guess the Charlie Chans and Fu Manchus just passed me by.

By the way, I have also accompanied you on many of your visits to the byways of our great country and I wish to thank you for our journeys together, too.

Yours sincerely,

Florence Jonas

(Mrs.) Florence Jonas

Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute

TROY, NEW YORK 12181

2/22/71

Dear Mr. Hunt

Congratulations on your China show last night.
You're probably done more to improve our
relations with the Chinese than anyone else — & in one hour!
Also, a nod to your succinct writer — a clean, pointed style.

L. Trachten

McGILL UNIVERSITY
MONTREAL

Center for East Asian Studies

February 24, 1972

Mr. Irv Drasnin
Producer,
CBS News
524 West 57 St.
New York, N.Y. 10019

Dear Mr. Drasnin:

Many thanks for your letter of February 11.

Unfortunately, because I was to be on CBS myself that evening, I was only able to catch part of your documentary "Misunderstanding China" before leaving the hotel. What I saw of it was good, and I was impressed by the number of excellent historical clips you managed to collect. Congratulations.

Do you think it would be possible for me to borrow a copy of the documentary? I should like to show it to some students and faculty here and in the process see it myself in its entirety, whereupon I can give you a more detailed comment as you requested.

I too hope that we will have an opportunity to meet again and discuss matters of common interest.

Sincerely,

Paul T.K. Lin
Director

PTKL/el

CBS NEWS
A Division of Columbia Broadcasting System, Inc.
524 West 57 Street
New York, New York 10019
(212) 765-4321

Dear Mr. Schulberg:

Perry Wolff has faithfully passed on to me your most thoughtful letter regarding the China broadcast.

I am genuinely pleased and gratified by your generous response, and by your taking the time and interest to write.

It's not often that one receives such notices from persons like yourself, which makes it doubly meaningful.

Again, my sincere thanks.

Best regards.

Irv Drasnin
Producer

Mr. Stuart Schulberg
Executive Producer, TODAY
NBC NEWS
Thirty Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York 10020

March 2, 1972

NBC NEWS
A DIVISION OF NATIONAL BROADCASTING COMPANY, INC.
THIRTY ROCKEFELLER PLAZA, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10020, CIRCLE 7-8300

STUART SCHULBERG
Executive Producer
TODAY

February 25, 1972

Mr. Perry Wolff
Executive Producer
CBS News
35 West 45th Street
New York, New York

Dear Perry Wolff:

I watched your special at 6 p.m. last Sunday night with great admiration. It was the most interesting, stimulating and valuable lesson about China I've seen yet--not in terms of Maoist politics which I'm tiring of already but in terms of the real equation, the ultimate human relationship that our two peoples will have to develop if the politics wind up meaning anything at all. I didn't recognize the names of most of the contributors, but I wish you would pass on to them my respect and gratitude.

With best regards,

Sincerely,

Stuart Schulberg

Stuart Schulberg

SS:cc

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

February 22, 1972

Mr. Irv Drasnin
Producer
C. B. S. News
524 West 57th Street
New York, N. Y. 10019

Dear Mr. Drasnin:

Thanks for your letter of February 9 alerting me to your "Misunderstanding China." I had a chance to see the film--in a Chinese restaurant in Boston (where I was attending a friend's wedding feast), no less--and found it exceptionally well done. That last sequence of the American soldier heroically hoisting the Chinese girl onto his horse from Fifty-five Days in Peking leaves one clutching the stomach. But then, I expect we may have some contemporary dignitaries returning home in similar fashion on high horses.

I'll be back in Ann Arbor over the summer. If I can be of any future assistance let me know.

Sincerely yours,

Richard H. Solomon

THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA
ARIZONA MEDICAL CENTER
TUCSON, ARIZONA 85724

COLLEGE OF MEDICINE
DEPARTMENT OF SURGERY

February 21, 1972

Mr. Irv Drasnin
CBS News
51 West 52nd Street
New York, N. Y. 10019

Dear Irv:

I just wanted to drop you a note saying how much I enjoyed your recent television program "Misunderstanding China." It was very interesting as well as a delightfully composed presentation. In my lay opinion, I believe you have set a standard for the networks.

Although I have lost touch with you since the days of TEP and the Daily Bruin, I am pleased to see your fine progression. I expected no less!

Best personal wishes.

Sincerely,

Leonard

Leonard J. Weiner, M.D., F.A.C.S.
Associate Professor of Surgery

hkg

From the desk of

**ROY HEATLY**

KRON-TV 4

2-23-72

Mr. Irv Drasnin
CBS News
524 W. 57th Street
New York, N. Y. 10019

Dear Irv:

Not only I but many of ~~mx~~ my colleagues have expressed admiration for MISUNDERSTANDING CHINA.

Terrence O'Flaherty devoted not one but two columns to your broadcast -- and the attention was well-deserved.

My own personal congratulations to the "produced and written by" creator.

Your friend,

Roy H.

P.S. -- Also to Charles Kuralt; after all, he was a Bureau Chief in LA before I was, after Schakne, ~~XXXXX~~ before Zelman, before Harris, before Crossland, before ....

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G. B.
DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA 94720

Sunday

Dear Irv,

I just saw your "Misunderstanding China." I liked it. The progam must have touched many people in the same way. It was telecasted at the right moment when many people were willing to think once more about a difficult subject.

Congratulations. I waited faithfully until the cameras found their way to the credits. Your line looked well, too: Written and produced by Irv Drasnin. I hope the program will bring you all the rewards which you so richly deserve.

I am grateful for your letter. I am sorry you did not make it to Berkeley. Things have quieted down a little bit. At home, four children keep me on my toes. In that situation, your show had a marvelleeus effect, too. It made me fifteen years younger.

Let's hope we manage to get together some of these days. I hope you are over the exhaustion when my lines reach you.

Sincerely,

Gunther,

FILM ODYSSEY

Feb 21, 1972

Mr. Irv Drasnin
CBS News

Dear Mr. Drasnin:

Your program aired on Sunday - Misunderstanding China was a remarkably clear, cogent and exciting use of compilation film material - one of the best pieces of research and of editing to support commentary that I've seen. As film consultant for the PBS Film Odyssey series, a special vote of honor to your film researcher - Marion Lear Swaybill - and to the others who worked on this area. Using fiction film, newsreel and actuality footage together to interpret history is a particular fascination of mine - I know how difficult the hassle involved is. In fact, I was kind of playing along with the program, guessing what footage or film you'd use next. And you were always out in front, more intelligent than I expected, or than I was in my fictional picks (and I didn't have to okay mine with studio lawyers.

Congratulations on your professionalism and your energy. It's not often that you see the two combined on television - be it commercial, public or whatever.

Best,

Michael W. Barlow
Consultant
Film Odyssey

...ORD-LOS
...EET: LA
...450 SUNSET BLVD.
L. A. 90027, CA.

35 w/ 45

Mr. Irv. Drasnin
Producer - Misunderstanding China
CBS News
~~524 West 57th St.~~
New York, N.Y. 10019

FILM ODYSSEY

From the desk of —
MR. & MRS. WILLIAM L. CHUNG

12815 Tamarack Road,
Silver Spring, Md. 20904
February 21, 1972

AIR MAIL

Dear Mr. Drasnin:

I watched the CBS News Special "Misunderstanding China" produced by you and written by you (also Narrated by Charles Kuralt, the "Road Correspondent of CBS", please say "Hello" for me too) I enjoyed very much indeed.

You can figure out precisely from my name that I am an oriental, to be precise, I am an American-Chinese (a naturalized U.S. citizen of Chinese origin, highly educated by American insititutions in China and here in USA). I am 63 years old now and have worked for US government for decades and retired a year ago.

In some twenty-eight years of thinking on the matter of Chinese and Americans, I have reached the reluctant conclusion that we-- American really do not want to know China and its people in the way that we must, if we want to deal with them in the future, either in good term or war.

Your productions show the real background which nobody have ever shown before to emphasize the damages made, the insults sufferred and deep feeling created to the Chinese, regardless, Chinese in Taiwan or mainland, we all knew too well as discribed in the current Newsweek magaine.

I congratulate your "Guts" to put such documentations together and Mr. Kuralt to narrated it.

Many Westerners who are knowledgeable about China, even though they may have been born there or lived there extensively or studied it intensively, remain essentially Westerners in their THINKING and cultural orientation and this necessarily limits their ultimate objectivity and effectiveness. Whatever their expertise, their response is NOT and cannot be that of the oriental or Chinese in particular.

There are many many Chinese-Americans with tremendouse knowledge of China being left out with the blessing or consultations of State Department or White House, instead they work for the so-called "China-expert" or "China-Scholar", as researcher or interpreter, particularily, translator, so that the so-called "China-Expert" could write or talk about China. Anyone who has spent sometime in China, or speaks a little Chinese or reads a little, is "honored" as "China-expert", in fact, he or she is full of "Boloney", we --well-educated American-Chinese know it, but we have never challenge them before.

Once I read in the London Times that if a person has spent a couple of months in China he will write a two-volume 500-pages book about China. One who has spent a couple of years in China will write one volume of 300 pages. But if one has spent 20 or 30 years in China, she or he will keep her or his damned mouth shut and put away the pen. He cannot write one thing about China, because, he or she really does not know them at all. How long we -American public - will learn from such so-called "China-Expert".

A AIR MAI

I have written to several so-called "China-experts" in Chinese asking them and challenge them. Dr. Schwartz of Harvard, Dr. Whiting of Michigan and Mr. Service of UC, Calif. admitted that they are "Students" of China, not "Expert", but, Barnett, Perkins, Thomson, Jr. Eckstein, Sollenberg and Solomon (now in White House, formerly with Michigan) would not answer.

If you want a good Chinese dinner, you better go to Chinese restaurant, I have not yet eat a classic-Chinese dinner for the past 62 years which was prepared none other than a Chinese cook. I hope you got my point.

There are many many scholars of Chinese-Americans, such as Dr. Hsueh, Chun-tu of Maryland now, Dr. Chih, Yu-ju of Indiana, Dr. Hsia, T.A. UC, Berkely, Calif. Dr. Hu, Kai-yu of Stanford, Dr. So, Kwan-wai of Wisconsin and Dr. Lee, W.K. of Georgetown University of Wash. DC. many, many others. I certainly hope you will, one day, produce a group of Chinese-American China-Experts, all speaking Chinese language and let all those so-called American or Westerner "China-experts" to participate for a debate of China affairs. You will find how stupid those so call Westerner "China-experts" are.

I am U.S. citizen and I have no preference of Mao's China, or Chiang's China or X's China, but, one thing is proud that now American President is visiting Peking and people in USA or all over the world, particularily of Westerners, that CHINESE IS no more "SECOND CLASS RACE" ANYMORE.

Hoping to hear from you soon, I am,

Sincerely yours,

William L. Chung

Nazareth College
Nazareth, Mich 49074
February 22, 1972

The Staff
Sixty Minutes
CBS Broadcasting Co.
New York, New York

Dear Sirs,

Your program Misunderstand China was the honest and most objective report of the once "sick man of Southeast Asia" who was humiliated, raped, and mutilated by eight strong ugly men. This "sick man" has recovered and is now standing on his own two feet. Let us all learn from history!

Sincerely,

Soo Yee-yau

Soo Yee-yau

CBS NEWS
A Division of Columbia Broadcasting System, Inc.
524 West 57 Street
New York, New York 10019
(212) 765-4321

Dear Ms. Borg:

We met in your office a few months back and discussed the television documentary about China I was preparing for CBS NEWS. The program is scheduled to be broadcast Sunday, February 20 from 6-7 p.m. EST. It is titled "Misunderstanding China."

I'm returning your book of Charlie Chan quotations. I would also appreciate having back my thesis that I sent you on John Powell and the Nationalist Revolution, 1924-27. It's the only copy I have of that ancient and verbose document.

I very much appreciated the time you took to discuss with me attitudes and images of China and the Chinese. That's what the broadcast's intended to cover, but my only feeling about it at the moment is sheer exhaustion.

I suppose all that can be hoped is that the generalizations I've made are closer to the point than a lot of other generalizations about China made by the media in the past. But I'm hoping you'll be able to watch and judge for yourself.

Sincerely,

Irv Drasnin

Ms. Dorothy Borg
Department of History
Columbia University
New York, New York

February 9, 1972

CBS NEWS
A Division of Columbia Broadcasting System, Inc.
524 West 57 Street
New York, New York 10019
(212) 765-4321

Dear Mr. Miller:

We met in your office several months back to discuss the CBS NEWS documentary I was preparing on China. The program is scheduled for broadcast Sunday, February 20, from 6-7 p.m. EST (it may be broadcast from 5:30-6:30 p.m. on the West Coast because of the estimated time of Nixon's arrival in Peking). It is titled "Misunderstanding China."

Both our conversation and your book, "The Unwelcome Immigrant," were of great help to me. I appreciated your time and interest.

I suppose the best that can be hoped is that the generalizations I've made are closer to the point than a lot of other generalizations about China made by the media in the past. In any case, I believe the broadcast is appropriate and overdue (at least for television).

I hope all is well at San Francisco State.

Best regards,

Irv Drasnin
Producer

Mr. Stuart Miller
c/o Department of Social Sciences
San Francisco State College
San Francisco, California

February 9, 1972

CBS NEWS
A Division of Columbia Broadcasting System, Inc.
524 West 57 Street
New York, New York 10019
(212) 765-4321

Dear Mr. Issacs:

Several months back we met in New York and discussed a television program about China which I was preparing for CBS NEWS. It is being broadcast Sunday, February 20, from 6-7 p.m. EST. It is titled "Misunderstanding China."

Both our conversation and your book, "Scratches on Our Minds," were of great help to me; as was Dorothy Jones, who assisted with the feature film segment of the broadcast.

What I feel most about the program at the moment is sheer exhaustion, but I hope that the generalizations I've made are more helpful than a lot of other generalizations about China that have been made by the media in the past.

I hope you'll be able to see the broadcast and I hope too that we will meet again.

Sincerely,

Irv Drasnin
Producer

Mr. Harold Issacs
c/o Center of International Studies
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Cambridge, Massachusetts

February 7, 1972

CBS NEWS
A Division of Columbia Broadcasting System, Inc.
524 West 57 Street
New York, New York 10019
(212) 765-4321

Dear Mark:

It seems several years since we discussed Taiwan with respect to the television broadcast I was preparing on U.S. China policy. Figuring out how to do this program has been like shooting at a moving target.

The end result is different than originally conceived, but I think it is appropriate and long overdue. It is called "Misunderstanding China." It is scheduled for broadcast on Sunday, February 20, from 6-7 p.m. EST. (On the West Coast, it may be broadcast from 5:30-6:30 p.m. because of the estimated time of Nixon's arrival in Peking.)

I suppose the most that can be hoped is that the generalizations I've made are closer to the point than a lot of other generalizations about China made by the media in the past. My feeling about it at the moment is sheer exhaustion.

I very much appreciated your time, interest and offers of help. I hope all is well with you.

Sincerely,

Irv Drasnin

Mr. Mark Mancall
Department of History
Stanford University
Stanford, California

February 8, 1972

CBS NEWS
A Division of Columbia Broadcasting System, Inc.
524 West 57 Street
New York, New York 10019
(212) 765-4321

Dear Mr. Zagoria:

We met a few months back to discuss the television broadcast I was preparing on U.S. China policy. The program, titled "Misunderstanding China," is scheduled to be broadcast on Sunday, February 20, from 6-7 p.m. EST.

The end result is different than originally conceived, but as you can understand it's been like shooting at a moving target. In any case, I think the program we have is appropriate and overdue (for television, at least).

I enjoyed meeting you and I appreciate the time you spent discussing the project with me.

Sincerely,

Irv Drasnin
Producer

Mr. Donald Zagoria
Department of Government
Columbia University
New York, N.Y.

February 8, 1972

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G. B.
DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY

BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA 94720

AEREO

Sunday

Dear Irv,

I just saw your "Misunderstanding China." I liked it. The progam must have touched many people in the same way. It was telecasted at the right moment when many people were willing to think once more about a difficult subject.

Congratulations. I waited faithfully until the cameras found their way to the credits. Your line looked well, too: Written and produced by Irv Drasnin. I hope the program will bring you all the rewards which you so richly deserve.

I am grateful for your letter. I am sorry you did not make it to Berkeley. Things have quieted down a little bit. At home, four children keep me on my toes. In that situation, your show had a marvelleous effect, too. It made me fifteen years younger.

Let's hope we manage to get together some of these days. I hope you are over the exhaustion when my lines reach you.

Sincerely,

Jonathan

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO

BOULDER, COLORADO 80302

CENTER FOR EAST ASIAN STUDIES

(303) 443-2211
Ext. 8856
6640

February 20, 1972

Mr. Irv Drasnin
CBS News
524 West 57 Street
New York, New York 10019

Dear Irv:

Thank you for your thoughtful letter of February 9. I had shared your intentions of following up our meeting at The Broadmoor, but had been similarly inundated with administrative plus teaching tasks.

I waited to respond until I had seen your "Misunderstanding China" today, with a view to including my general impressions, if they happened to be favorable. They are; so I needn't resort to East Asian polite silence on the matter. In all honesty, I think your program was one of the best film presentations(if not the best) on China that I have ever seen. It started where I think we need to start--right at the attitudes; and it very deftly combines commentary with images and (almost sadistically, but with pedagogical power) juxtaposes images. I'm sure you will receive a variety of reviews; I thought you wouldn't mind a comment from a fellow who makes his living trying to inculcate a bit of understanding about East Asia.

If possible, I would like to try to purchase a copy of the film for our audio-visual dept. so that it will be on hand for course use and over campus showings. If this does not seem possible, of course I will want information on where to go in order to rent a copy. Information on these matters will be appreciated.

I expect to be in New York for the March 27-29 Assn. for Asian Studies meeting, and perhaps the previous week-end. Should it fit in with your schedule, I would very much enjoy breaking bread sometime with you and Mrs. Drasnin while in NY.

Again, my warm congratulations on a very difficult job very well done. Regards to Mrs. Drasnin.

Sincerely,

Lawrence W. Beer
Director

R.H.A. Dales
206 Forestdale Drive
Taylors, S.C., 29687

February 21, 1972

Columbia Broadcasting System
C.B.S. News: " 60 Minutes"
Attn: Producer "Misunderstanding China"
New York, N.Y.

Dear Sir,

We were delighted to see and hear your above production Sunday night, February 20.

We consider both, the pictures as well as the narrative outstanding and trust that your enlightening news will help our President's mission and the creation of an era of better understanding between the new world of China and the New World on this side of the oceans.

We admire especially your capability of compressing so much thought and the salient facts of recent history in proper sequence in so little time.

Sincerely,

Mr and Mrs Reinier H.A. Dales